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THE ST. LOUIS REPORT: STATE OF THE LEGAL PROFESSION IN ST. LOUIS, 1995, 3:87

AAA Revises Construction Rules

(Continued from page 4)

served as vice chair.

Some of the new features of the revised Construction Industry Arbitration Rules:
Fast Track Arbitration System (for claims of less than \$50,000).

- *Appointment and Qualification of Arbitrators.* The AAA will provide the parties a listing and biographical information from its roster of arbitrators knowledgeable in construction who are available for service in the fast-track cases. The parties are encouraged to agree on an arbitrator from this roster. If they fail to do so, the AAA will designate one from among names in the roster that were not stricken.

- *Discovery.* There shall be no discovery except in extraordinary cases.

- *Hearing.* Generally, the hearing shall not exceed one day.

- *Time of Award.* Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, the award shall be rendered not later than seven days from the date of closing of the hearing.

- *Time Standards.* The arbitration shall be completed within 60 days of confirmation of the arbitrator's appointment unless all parties and

the arbitrator agree otherwise.

Regular Track System (for claims between \$50,000 and \$1 million).

- *Exchange of Information.* The arbitrator may direct the production of documents and other information, and the identification of any witnesses.

- *Evidence.* The arbitrator may request offers of proof, and may reject evidence deemed cumulative, unreliable, unnecessary, or of slight value compared to the time and expense involved.

Large, Complex Construction Case Track (for cases involving claims of at least \$1 million).

- *Arbitrators.* Large, Complex Construction Case shall be heard and determined by either one or three arbitrators, as may be agreed upon by the parties.

- *Preliminary Hearing.* A preliminary hearing shall be held among the parties, or their attorneys or representatives and the arbitrator immediately after the selection of the arbitrator. Matters to be considered would include statement of claims, damages and defenses, the extent of discovery, identification and availability of witnesses.

